

IOWA COLLEGE STUDENT AID COMMISSION
MINUTES OF MEETING
September 23, 2015
10:00 a.m.

Members Present:

Janet Adams	Michael Ash
Roger Claypool	Crystal Ford
Tedd Gassman	Katie Mulholland
Herman Quirmbach	Doug Shull
Jeremy Varner	Karolyn Wells
Cindy Winckler	

Members Absent:

Tim Kraayenbrink	Frederick Moore
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Staff Present:

Todd Brown	Jethro De Lisle
Julie Leeper	Al Lewis
Kris May	Karen Misjak
Rachel Scott	Christina Sibouih
Carolyn Small	Ashley Wendt

Guests Present:

Matt Brown	Iowa Student Loan
Angela Carlson	Capri College
Dave Epley	House Democratic Staff
Robin Madison	Legislative Services Agency
Annette Shaw	BTC Capital Management
Melissa Stover	Bankers Trust
Colin Tadlock	Legislative Services Agency

Call to Order

The Iowa College Student Aid Commission met for a regularly scheduled meeting on September 23, 2015. Commission Chair Adams called the meeting to order at 10:06 a.m. with a quorum present.

Executive Director's Report

Ms. Misjak said she and Janet Adams as well as several other Commissioners attended a town hall meeting on September 14, 2015 at North High School that was attended by President Barack Obama and U.S. Department of Education Secretary Arne Duncan. The President praised North High School for their improvements in college readiness, through increases in such areas as AP classes over the recent years. President Obama made two announcements during this visit, announcing changes to the FAFSA application deadlines starting in October 2016 and also announced and discussed the re-launch of the College Scorecard website as part of the conversation on college affordability and student readiness.

Ms. Misjak shared that Commission staff were given the directive to submit a status quo budget for FY 2017 when she met with the Department of Management. Ms. Misjak said they discussed the new scholarship and grant system and we are planning to request the \$150,000 annual maintenance fee for the system in the administrative budget. The Commission's budget meeting to discuss Fiscal Year 2017 budget requests with the Governor and the Department of Management has been scheduled for November 19, 2015.

Ms. Misjak said during the 2014-15 state fiscal year, the Commission administered scholarship and grant programs provided 28,741 awards, totaling approximately \$72,384,801, and the Commission administered loan repayment programs provide 311 awards to individuals employed in select high-need professions in Iowa providing over \$4,065,372 in loan repayment obligations and cash bonuses. The number of total awards made through Commission administered scholarship, grant, and loan repayment programs increased by almost 6% and expenditures increased by over 13% in 2014-15 when compared to the previous year. Ms. Misjak said the increase was largely due to the Gear Up Scholarship.

The Commission is one member of a network made up of individuals from a variety of education stakeholder groups and state agencies interested in coordinating efforts to implement elements of First Lady Michelle Obama's Reach Higher Initiative titled the Iowa College and Career Readiness Roadmap. Commissioner Winckler requested a presentation on College and Career Readiness and what that involves.

Minutes of Meeting

Motion: Commissioner Shull moved to approve the meeting minutes for July 17, 2015 as written. Commissioner Ford seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

Motion: Commissioner Wells moved to approve the meeting minutes for August 21, 2015 as written. Commissioner Shull seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

Administrative Rules

Motion: Commissioner Ash moved to rescind the proposed Administrative Rules Chapter 27 – Iowa Grant Program. Commissioner Shull seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

Motion: Commissioner Shull moved to adopt amendments to *Administrative Rules Chapter 8 – All Iowa Opportunity Scholarship*, New Chapter 10 – Uniform Policies and refer all references to residency in the Commission's rules to this new chapter, *Chapter 20 – National Guard Educational Assistance Program*, *Chapter 28 – Teach Iowa Scholar Program*, and *Chapter 36 – Governor Terry E. Branstad Iowa State Fair Scholarship Program*. Commissioner Ash seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

Audit and Finance Committee

Ms. May shared that staff is working with the Attorney General's office to issue a Notice of Sale to receive bid proposals from prospective bidders to purchase the private Partnership Loan Program portfolio. The Audit and Finance Committee will also be working with staff on the financial framework to establish a 5-year financial plan and will be sharing this plan at upcoming Commission Meetings.

Motion: Commissioner Wells moved that the Commission recommend a Fiscal Year 2017 budget that includes a 5 percent increase in all programs administered by the Commission, that the Work-Study Program be funded at \$1,250,000, and that the Commission's administrative funding be increased to \$610,991, for a total budget recommendation of \$74,673,232. Commissioner Shull seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

Ms. Misjak said the Budget Hearing has been scheduled with the Governor and Department of Management. Commissioners are welcome to speak and present a recommended budget on their behalf. Commissioner Quirnbach said it is good to have Commissioners presence during this hearing.

Legislative Committee

Ms. Leeper said the Commission has an agency bill; however, there is no plan to introduce the bill for the 2016 Legislative Session. This Legislative Session, staff will work on code language clean-up for the All Iowa Opportunity Scholarship. The National

Guard Program would also like some changes and staff will be working with their lobbyist. Commissioner Winckler said the National Guard changes will likely go through the Veterans Affairs Committee where the expertise in higher education are lacking and feels that the legislators on the board should advocate that these changes go to the education committees. Commissioner Quirnbach asked to receive a copy of the changes so it can be filed with the Education Committee in the Senate. Ms. Leeper said the Legislative Committee will be working on Consumer Protection language issues with the AG's office during their next Legislative Committee meeting.

Banker's Trust

Ms. Shaw from BTC Capital Management provided an update on the Gear Up Trust investment portfolio.

Staff Reports

Ms. Small provided an update regarding Ashford University and their teach out programs for Clinton students. Transferring agreements for these students are being worked on and Ashford is keeping Commission staff in the loop. Ms. Small said she feels comfortable with the plan that Ashford has put in place.

Commissioner Quirnbach requested that staff keep Commissioners updated regarding the issue of consumer protection while working with the national SARA entity.

Mr. Brown provided a report on the close out of the Iowa Grant Program.

Ms. Sibouih gave an overview of the first year of the GEAR UP Grant 2.0.

Ms. Scott shared what the College Changes Everything (CCE) initiative is working on currently. Current Local College Access Network (LCAN) Grantee Communities include Ottumwa, Burlington, Sioux City, Hampton and Estherville. Next steps include developing an implementation grant process, training for communities with Michigan College Access Network staff on October 7 and 8, 2015 and working with all grantees on network development and sustainability.

Commissioner Winckler requested a map of graduation rates by county.

Ms. May provided an update of FY2015 year-to-date financials.

Commission Adjourned at 12:14.


JANET ADAMS, CHAIR


CRYSTAL FORD, VICE CHAIR